

Zero Beat

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.

Our 44th ARRL affiliated year
Special Service Club

Serving Greater Springfield, MA

President's Comments

HCRA Receives top honors for participation!

Thanks to Jeff K1BE for the last meeting. Jeff's motivational presentation featuring a history of HCRA in the January VHF sweepstakes, and starring Art W1KK, and Cliff W1UWX, caused bedlam on the bands during the competition. On many occasions ten to twenty different HCRA calls were to be found on the FM bands. With that many hams on one frequency, courtesy and friendly competition had to be the bywords. The operators that operated on the low end of the bands were in need of an additional quality, tolerance, or the ability to continue in spite of the fact that your radio was being destroyed by incredibly strong signals. HCRA has always stressed comradarie of club participation. It is more important to get our score in and counted than the total score. We would rather see seventy scores of 50 points each than five scores of 100,000 points each. As a result of this philosophy, we now have lots of interested VHFers all living in close proximity. Many of our hams are producing as much as 150 kilowatts ERP on some bands. When these conditions are present, it almost takes a saint not to get discouraged.

After a quick review of my log I generated a few comments. (1) Two club members were worked on six bands. NA1W and W1NY. (2) Three more club members were worked on five bands. K1BE, K1ISW, and NQ1C. (3) One station was worked from three different grids.

KA1WER was on from FN33, FN32, and FN31. (4) Nine stations were worked from two different grids. K1CYD, N1IBR, KA1IDI, KA1TBS, NM1K, WM1N, all from FN31 and FN32. N1HKF from FN33 and FN32, and KA1QAS and NR1L from FN41 and FN31.

Congratulations on a job well done are sent to (1) the operators at W1NY who helped the station place high in the national ranking. AC1T, N1DPM, N1GXR, N1GVV, NC1B, NC1I, W1KK, and WA1UQC. (2) NQ1C, NA1W, and K1BE who were battling for western Mass section leader. (3) WA1VRH, who operated from his Connecticut hilltop working 45 grids on 6 meters and 35 grids on 2 meters. (4) W1KK who in spite of owning a great station went mobile to give out more contacts for the club. (5) KA1WER, N1HKF, KA1QAS, NR1L, and all others who traveled many miles and spent many hours in order to push HCRA toward their goal. (6) It has been said that it takes five years to season as a contest. It looks like two of our own will reach seasoning before their 16th birthdays. Congratulations and thanks to N1GVV (operator for two years at W1NY) and KA1TMV who is now studying for his tech.

A special thanks to all others who participated and made this event an HCRA success. Please bring your logs to the next meeting, send them to K1BE, NQ1C, N1DPM or mail your entry to the league giving credit to HCRA on your entry sheet. Our goal is to submit 50 logs. Let's team up and tomahawk this goal. 73 Stan

Next VE exam will be Wednesday, February 6, 1991 7:00pm at the Agawam High School

Next meeting will be February 1st, 8:00pm at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church

Next board meeting will be February 7th

Club Officers

President—Stan Hilinski, KA1ZE
Vice President — Bob Lafleur, NQ1C
Treasurer—Greg Stoddard, N1AEH
Secretary —Jim Sebolt, N1DUY

Directors

Charlie Dunlap, K1II
Larry Lemoine, N1EPE
Steve Nelson, WA1EYF
Cliff Junkins, W1UWX
Bob Cohen, K1CPJ
Fred Stefanik, N1DPM
Frank Potts, NC1I
Scott Cohen, KA1QAS

Articles from this newsletter may be reprinted as long as credit is given to Zero Beat

Calendar of Events

February	1	Meeting
	6	VE Session
	7	Board Meeting
March	1	Meeting
	6	VE Session
	7	Board Meeting
April	5	Meeting
	11	Board Meeting
	28	Fleamarket
May	3	Meeting
	9	Board Meeting
June	5	VE Session
	7	June Banquet
	13	Board Meeting
	29-30	Field Day

HCRA Fleamarket Information

The next HCRA fleamarket will be held on April 28th. This year the location will be the Southwick Recreational Center on Powder Mill Road in Southwick. Tables will be \$7.00 in advance, or \$10.00 at the door. Checks for reservations should be made out to HCRA and mailed to Fred Stefanik, N1DPM, 50 Witheridge Street, Agawam, MA 01030. Doors will open for sellers at 7:00am and for the general public at 9:00am. VE exams will begin at 10:00am, but exam registration will begin at 9:00am. Admission will be \$2.00. For more information, call Fred at (413) 786-7943 or Tom WB1FVS at (203) 644-0026.

Receive Only	Free. Range (MHz)	N.F. (dB)	Gain (dB)	1 dB Comp. (dBm)	Device Type	Price
P28VD	28-30	<1.1	15	0	OGFET	\$29.95
P50VD	50-54	<1.3	15	0	OGFET	\$29.95
P50VVG	50-54	<0.5	24	+12	GaAsFET	\$79.95
P144VD	144-148	<1.5	15	0	OGFET	\$29.95
P144VDA	144-148	<1.0	15	0	OGFET	\$37.95
P144VVG	144-148	<0.5	24	+12	GaAsFET	\$79.95
P220VD	220-225	<1.8	15	0	OGFET	\$29.95
P220VDA	220-225	<1.2	15	0	OGFET	\$37.95
P220VVG	220-225	<0.5	20	+12	GaAsFET	\$79.95
P432VD	420-450	<1.8	15	-20	Bipolar	\$32.95
P432VDA	420-450	<1.1	17	-20	Bipolar	\$49.95
P432VVG	420-450	<0.5	16	+12	GaAsFET	\$79.95

Inline (if switched)						
SP28VD	28-30	<1.2	15	0	OGFET	\$59.95
SP50VD	50-54	<1.4	15	0	OGFET	\$59.95
SP50VVG	50-54	<0.55	24	+12	GaAsFET	\$109.95
SP144VD	144-148	<1.6	15	0	OGFET	\$59.95
SP144VDA	144-148	<1.1	15	0	OGFET	\$67.95
SP144VVG	144-148	<0.55	24	+12	GaAsFET	\$109.95
SP220VD	220-225	<1.9	15	0	OGFET	\$59.95
SP220VDA	220-225	<1.3	15	0	OGFET	\$67.95
SP220VVG	220-225	<0.55	20	+12	GaAsFET	\$109.95
SP432VD	420-450	<1.9	15	-20	Bipolar	\$62.95
SP432VDA	420-450	<1.2	17	-20	Bipolar	\$79.95
SP432VVG	420-450	<0.55	16	+12	GaAsFET	\$109.95

Every preamplifier is precision aligned on ARR's Newest Package HP8578A/HP348A state-of-the-art noise figure meter. RX only preamplifiers are for receive applications only. Inline preamplifiers are if switched (for use with transceivers) and handle 25 watts transmitter power. Mount inline preamplifiers between transceiver and power amplifier for high power applications. Other amateur, commercial and special preamplifiers available in the 1-1000 MHz range. Please include \$2 shipping in U.S. and Canada. Connecticut residents add 7-1/2% sales tax. C.O.D. orders add \$2. Air mail to foreign countries add 10%. Order your ARR Rx only or inline preamplifier today and start hearing like never before!

Advanced Receiver Research

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Loop yagis: 903 MHz 33 elements \$89 kit, \$109 assembled and tested. 1296 MHz 45 elements \$89 kit, \$109 assembled and tested. 1296 55 element "Super Looper" \$99 kit, \$124 assembled and tested. 2304 MHz 45 element \$75 kit, \$89 assembled and tested. Element and hardware kits also available for above loop yagis. 2 and 4 way power dividers. Discount on complete arrays. Solid state linear power amps, 13VDC: 1296 8W in, 35W out, \$315. 1W in, 20W out, \$265. 4W in, 70W out, \$695. GaAsFET preamps: 902 .8dB NF, \$90. 1296 .8dB NF, \$90. 2304 1dB max NF, \$140. SHF systems no-tune transverter kits with 144 MHz IF now available for 902 through 3456. Write or call for complete catalog. DOWNHEAST MICROWAVE, Bill Olson, W3HQT. Box 2301, RR1, Troy Maine, 04907. For information and orders telephone (207) 948-3741.

Rutland Arrays — Highest performance yagis available! 10M: RA5-28 5 elements, 8dBd gain. 6m: RA4-50 4 elements, 12' 4" 8.25dBd. RA7-50 7 elements 26' 6" 10.5dBd. 2m: RA8-2UWB 8 elements 11' 9" 13.5dB gain. FO12-144 12 elements 17' 4" 12.6dBd. FO15-144 15 elements 24' 8" 13.7dBd. 22: FO16-220 16 elements 7' 3" 14dBd. 70cm: FO11-440 11 elements 6' rear mount 12dBd. FO22-432 22 element 14' 15.8dBd. FO25-432 25 elements 17' 3", 16.5dBd. FO33-432, 33 element 24' 3" 7.8dBd. We also have stacking frames and power dividers. Call or write for our catalog. 1703 Warren Street, New Cumberland, PA 17070. (717) 774-8298 7:00-10:00pm EST. Local authorized distributor is Fred Gore, KA1TBS, (413) 569-3579.

VIII Sweepstakes 1991 in Review

By

Jeffrey J. Duquette

Well, it's come and gone! All the preparation, all the work, all the things that went wrong we never figured on! The following is my own opinion, and you can take it with a grain of salt:

The bands were absolutely FLAT! Last month I talked to Europe on six meters, this time I could barely get out of New England. My 70 cm setup failed completely. I still don't know why, but it was totally deaf. I realized I wasn't hearing anything when AC1T, who lives about 3 miles away, bore-sighted his beam on me and I had to resort to cw to work him! I hooked up a mag mount and the TW-4000A on 446.000, but it wasn't the same.

Two meters saved the day, with weak openings that quickly faded, and all the local FM activity. The other big saving grace was all the stations that went to a different grid square to work us again! 1296 was great, everyone I tried to work I heard loud and clear. This was the first time I ever worked 220, and it seemed most people were on FM at 223.500. I felt sideband on all the bands was neglected.

I suspect the stations that hop from square to square will go up next year. We should put together some really super setups to travel around. I know I'd be interested in that. With the new technician no-code license, 1992 should see record numbers on the FM direct frequencies. We can look forward to it and dream.

Well, I made notes on what to improve and I'm starting to get ready for 1992. Watch out for a bigger and better signal from K1BE in January!

Frequencies for Operation Desert Storm reprinted from the Handi-ham newsletter. Radio Israel is on 7400. Radio Baghdad seems to be off the air. (I wonder why?)

Operation Desert Storm

Radio Baghdad on the East Coast: 13660 at 21:00 through 23:00 UTC in English.

Military and Other Utility Frequencies

All US military traffic is on USB for voice but could be LSB for data (RTTY/AMTOR/TDM/FDM).

FREQ	SERVICE	FREQ	SERVICE
2182	Int'l Calling/Emergency	2716	US Navy Harbor
3023	US Navy Tactical	3130	US Navy Tactical
4517	USAF MARS	4593	USAF MARS
4727	SAC (Channel Victor)	5703	USAF TAC Air
6683	Andrews AFB (Mystic Star)	6697	US Navy Tactical
6705	USAF Air/Ground	6723	US Navy (Raspberry Ch)
6738	USAF Air/Ground	6750	USAF Air/Ground
6761	USAF SAC	6927	Andrews AFB (Mystic Star)
8972	US Navy (Atlantic)	8989	USAF Air/Flight
8993	USAF Air/Ground	9014	USAF Air/Ground
9027	USAF SAC Air/Ground	11176	USAF Air/Ground
11200	RAF (Flight WX)	11214	USAF (Norad)
11228	USAF Air/Ground	11234	RAF Air/Ground
11243	USAF SAC Air/Ground	11246	USAF Air/Ground
11267	US Navy HICOM	11494	USAF SAC Air/Ground
12047.5	US Navy MARS	13181	US Navy HICOM
13201	USAF Air/Ground	13214	USAF Air/Ground
13241	USAF SAC Air/Ground	13244	USAF Air/Ground
13247	USAF Tactical Air/Ground	13826	US Navy MARS
13974	US Navy MARS	14441.5	US Navy MARS
14470	US Navy MARS	15015*	USAF Air/Ground
15035	Canadian Military WX	15041	USAF SAC Air/Ground
17975	USAF SAC Air/Ground	18002	USAF Air/Ground
18019	USAF Air/Ground	18027	Canadian Forces
20631	USAF SAC Air/Ground	23220	USAF Flight WX
23337	USAF SAC Air/Ground		

* Very active daytime enroute frequency with Army transports.

The following HF frequencies are assigned to the US Incirlik base in the Middle East.

5.703	6.753	15.014
6.7155	11.176	15.015
6.738	13.214	15.036

Airborne Warning And Control System

Awacs are currently flying the borders of Turkey and Saudi Arabia which meet with Iraq.

9.014	13.204
11.214	15.091

Military Airlift Command

All frequencies are USB.

11176.0	15015.0	8989.0
13214.0	6738.0	8993.0

HCRA Offers Codeless License Classes

The HCRA will be holding classes for the novice and technician (codeless) licenses. The classes will be held on Tuesday evenings, tentatively at the Agawam High School from 7:00-9:00pm. The classes will begin on February 5th, and will continue for 10 weeks, or until everyone has passed the exam. Tune In The World and Technician Licence Manuals will be available for purchase at special rates. The class will be taught by Bob McCormick, WF1R. Registration is suggested, although walkins will be welcome. Contact Bob WF1R at (413) 786-7966 or Bob NQ1C at (413) 737-8503 for more information or to register. If you have a friend who has been putting off getting their ticket because of the code, now is your chance to get them involved in the hobby!

VE Exams

Exams are sponsored by the HCRA on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00PM *sharp* at the Agawam High School. VE's are also needed. If you are interested in taking an exam or helping give exams, please contact Jeanette WC1O at 786-1463.

The next VE exam will be February 6th, 1991 at 7:00pm.

HCRA Meetings

First Friday of each month at
Feeding Hills Congregational Church
Center of Feeding Hills
Intersection of routes 57 & 187
Doors open at 7:30 PM
Meeting starts promptly at 8:00 PM

Next Meeting

February 1st 8:00pm

Feeding Hills Congregational Church

*Jim Ussailis W1EQO will speak on practical
antenna applications. Bring all your questions
regarding antennas and Jim will be prepared to
answer them!*

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.

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Editor: Bob Lafleur, NQ1C

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